

Panel discussion notes from NCMC-3: Combinatorial Informatics
Member needs and concerns dealing with informatics

- Reduce implementation money
- Value of proposition to user and vendor
- Control of instrument vs. output
- Standardized output
- We are always changing experiments, must suit our needs
- Ask instrument vendors what it takes to get them involved and then define what that is
- Allow for core control and output
- Some companies protect the core and freely distribute data, some companies do the opposite, and some companies do both---which is the most acceptable
- Exchange format for people who don't want to go the proprietary route
- What data do we want to collect---can we ALL agree?
- What is the minimum amount of data needed?
- Each companies core data is going to look different for different needs
- Is it better to start at a more general or specific level?
- Successful ones have started small with early and timely successes---the combi world changes fast.
- How does standardization improve our ability to retrieve information (accessibility)
- Storing information costs MONEY, more information, more money needed
- Desire to store information in a described format
- Combi studies of formulations?
- Standard control too difficult?? Controlling instrument.
- We want to make intelligent combi systems
- Need to capture data and knowledge
- We all have different priorities, how can we all come together and agree?
- Transparency is wanted at BOTH ends
- Cost is a huge barrier to all companies
- How many people will buy combi units?—Vendors will be interested if there is a market for it.
- If vendors want to be a part of this, then they must meet our standards—market opportunity
- Vendors want to supply market need—we need to quantify our need---form an exploratory committee
- Instrumentation for solid-state combi synthesis and testing
- How do you screen materials for structural properties in a non-destructive way and to adapt it for combi environments?
- We have to have the ability to pass information back and forth through systems
- What about XML as a standard??
- Try to address EVERYONE's needs

- We need to first define the critical steps of standards development
- PITTCON would be a good vendor show to be at and make contacts
- Need to identify target vendors
- Fall ACS Meeting!!! Very good time to talk with others!
- We all need to try to attend vendor shows and talk to vendors
- Need to define to vendors, “what’s in it for them”---get them interested
- We need to define and approach to vendors—vendors are skeptical!